

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gatto et al.

Appln. No.: 09/951,545

Filed: September 14, 2001

For: *Method and Apparatus for Endoscope System*



Art Unit: 3739

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 16150.006

Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

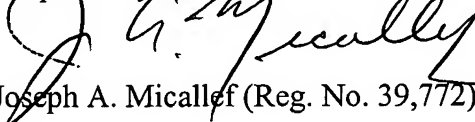
The attention of the Examiner is invited to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

It is respectfully requested that this information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

CERTIFICATION AND/OR FEE

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to issuance of the first action on the merits of the above-captioned application, no certification or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph A. Micallef (Reg. No. 39,772)

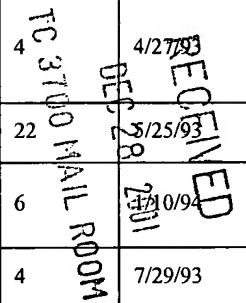
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FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				ATTY. DOCKET NO.		APPLICATION NO.			
				16517.144		09/951,545			
				APPLICANT(S)					
				Gatto et al.					
				FILING DATE		GROUP			
				September 14, 2001		3739			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE		
	AA	4,261,345	04/14/1981	Endoscope connector	128	6	11/20/79		
	AB	4,350,147	09/21/1982	Endoscope	128	4	9/24/80		
	AC	4,374,517	02/22/1983	Endoscope type high frequency surgical apparatus	128	6	6/3/81		
	AD	4,404,963	09/20/1983	Endoscope	128		10/23/80		
	AE	4,416,268	11/22/1983	Endoscope having two detachable armour tubes	128		6/29/81		
	AF	4,419,987	12/13/1983	Laser endoscope	128	4	12/13/83		
	AG	4,433,675	02/28/1984	Light supply apparatus for endoscope	128	6	3/25/82		
	AH	4,449,519	05/22/1984	Endoscope	128	4	5/17/82		
	AI	4,489,712	12/25/1984	Endoscope with a gas/liquid switching mechanism	128	6	11/10/82		
	AJ	4,534,339	08/13/1985	Endoscope	128	6	10/17/83		
	AK	4,552,131	11/12/1985	Co-viewing device for endoscope	128	6	6/19/84		
	AL	4,643,170	02/17/1987	Endoscope apparatus	128	6	11/27/85		
	AM	4,660,982	04/28/1987	Adaptor for measuring length optically for endoscope	356	383	5/7/85		
	AN	4,697,894	10/06/1987	Connection device for connecting an associated unit to an eyepiece section of an endoscope	350	574	11/27/85		
	AO	4,723,864	02/09/1988	Endoscope and photographing apparatus	403	322	10/18/85		
	AP	4,779,130	10/18/1988	Endoscope having a solid-state image sensor and shield therefor	358	98	10/14/87		
	AQ	4,784,463	11/15/1988	Endoscope apparatus holding apparatus	350	96.26	3/5/87		
	AR	4,794,911	01/03/1989	Means to facilitate detachably mounting cap to distal end of endoscope	128	4	8/13/87		
	AS	4,856,495	08/15/1989	Endoscope apparatus	128	6	10/27/88		
	AT	4,860,732	08/29/1989	Endoscope apparatus provided with endoscope insertion aid	128	6	11/23/88		
	AU	4,895,138	01/23/1990	Endoscope with a detachable observation unit at its distal end	128	6	12/24/85		

	AV	4,920,978	05/01/1990	Method and apparatus for the endoscopic treatment of deep tumors using RF hyperthermia	128	784	5/1/90
	AW	4,991,565	02/12/1991	Sheath device for endoscope and fluid conduit connecting structure therefor	128	4	2/12/91
	AX	5,134,469	07/28/1992	Endoscope light source apparatus with detachable flash unit	358	98	8/15/90
	AY	5,224,467	07/06/1993	Endoscope with direction indication mechanism	128	4	7/6/93
	AZ	5,237,984	08/24/1993	Sheath for endoscope	128	4	6/24/91
	BA	5,253,638	10/19/1993	Right-angle detachable variable-position reflector assembly	128	6	3/25/92
	BB	5,279,799	01/18/1994	Apparatus for cleaning and testing endoscopes	422	292	11/20/92
	BC	5,313,936	05/24/1994	Industrial endoscope apparatus	128	6	1/29/93
	BD	5,343,854	09/06/1994	Device for establishing communication between the interior and exterior of endoscope	128	4	4/27/93
	BE	5,346,469	09/13/1994	Handpiece for surgical operation	604	22	5/25/93
	BF	5,385,138	01/31/1995	Stereo endoscope for inserting into body cavities	128	6	4/10/94
	BG	5,413,092	05/09/1995	Sheath for endoscope	128	4	7/29/93
	BH	5,569,157	10/29/1996	Endoscope	600	107	5/2/94
	BI	5,630,787	05/20/1997	System including endoscope and disposable protection cover with channel	600	121	3/26/93
	BJ	5,662,588	09/02/1997	Endoscope apparatus	600	121	4/25/95
	BK	5,674,181	10/07/1997	Endoscope with a detachable tip cover	600	127	12/26/95
	BL	5,707,344	01/13/1998	Endoscope	600	127	4/25/96
	BM	5,792,045	08/11/1998	Sterile surgical coupler and drape	600	125	3/4/96
	BN	5,800,343	09/01/1998	Endoscope light guide connector allowing adjustment of the angle of incident light rays	600	132	2/3/97
	BO	5,823,940	10/20/1998	Optical surgical device for examining genitourinary tissue	600	105	3/7/96
	BP	5,860,913	01/19/1999	Endoscope whose distal cover can be freely detachably attached to main distal part thereof with high positioning precision	600	127	4/29/97
	BQ	5,863,286	01/26/1999	Endoscope system including endoscope and disposable protection cover	600	121	3/25/93
	BR	5,865,726	02/02/1999	Front end structure of side-view type endoscope	600	127	3/26/97
	BS	5,966,168	10/12/1999	Endoscope apparatus	348	68	3/3/98



	BT	5,967,969	10/19/1999	Endoscopic apparatus having a peripheral light source	600	117	8/13/98
	BU	5,971,917	10/26/1999	Endoscope having washing ports	600	159	2/9/98
	BV	5,976,073	11/02/1999	Hood of endoscope	600	129	6/15/98
	BW	5,989,185	11/23/1999	Endoscope apparatus	600	175	3/3/98
	BX	6,001,058	12/14/1999	Portable endoscope system	600	132	11/24/97
	BY	6,004,263	12/21/1999	Endoscope with detachable operation unit and insertion unit	600	176	3/13/97
	BZ	6,006,002	12/21/1999	Rigid sleeve device fitted over a flexible insertion section of an endoscope for inspecting industrial equipment	385	117	10/25/95
	CA	6007485	12/28/1999	Portable endoscope	600	178	8/31/98
	CB	6030339	02/29/2000	Imaging assembly for endoscopes making it possible to detachably attach units thereof, in which electric optical system and imaging device are incorporated respectively, to each other and to autoclave them	600	112	7/20/98
	CC	6074408	06/13/2000	Modular medical instrument and method of using same	606	203	10/13/98
	CD	6095970	08/01/2000	Endoscope	600	110	2/18/98
	CE	6135947	10/24/2000	Endoscope apparatus having light source movable between on and off positions	600	178	9/14/98
	CF	6174307	01/16/2001	Viewing surgical scope for minimally invasive procedures	606	15	1/8/99
	CG	6184923	02/06/2001	Endoscope with an interchangeable distal end optical adapter	348	75	2/6/01
	CH	6258083	07/10/2001	Viewing surgical scope for minimally invasive procedures	606	15	1/6/99
	CI	6270454	08/07/2001	Portable endoscope system	600	178	11/8/99
	CJ	6322496	11/27/2001	Electronic endoscope system	600	118	11/4/99
	CK	6306081	10/23/2001	Hood for an endoscope	600	127	4/16/99

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.